

## MULCH SMALL FRUIT VINES

Among Many Advantages It Prevents Growth of Weeds and Adds Needed Humus to Soil.

A successful West Virginia raspberry grower gives the following reasons for mulching:

It prevents the growth of weeds.  
It retains moisture in the soil.  
It adds humus, one of the necessary elements.

It keeps the fruit clean and prevents mud at picking time.

It saves labor, the cost of mulching an acre with forest leaves or straw not exceeding \$15.

It prevents deep freezing.  
It makes the fruit more solid for cultivation and better for shipping purposes.

It prevents the baking of the soil caused by tramping at picking time.

It has the disadvantage of encouraging mice and establishing a surface root system. However, we have not noticed any serious damage from either of these effects.

The cost of growing raspberries by nature's method, as I like to call it, is not very great. Picking is a nice job where there is no mud, no weeds and where the canes have been properly pruned.

Don't leave any old canes standing in the field.

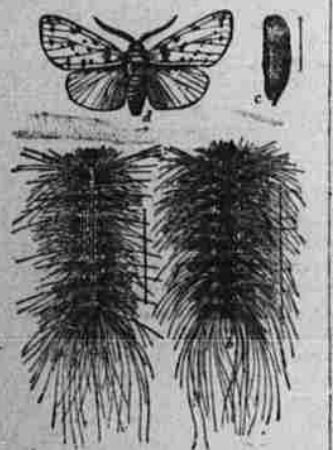
## DESTRUCTIVE WEB WORM

Insect Will Quickly Destroy Tree and Should Be Destroyed as Soon as They Appear.

In the fall the unsightly webs of this insect are seen all over the land. The adult, a little white moth, lays its eggs on the leaves of fruit and other trees and plants early in summer.

The young caterpillars spin the protective web. They are of a pale yellow, with long hairs, two black rows down the body, and a black head.

These worms will quickly destroy a tree and should be destroyed as soon as they appear, because after they have eaten the leaves they drop to the ground and spin a little cocoon within



a-Fall Web Worm. b-Caterpillars. c-Pupa. d-Moth.

which they hide themselves and then change back to the chrysalis state.

There are two broods of this insect in the south every year and one in the north.

Spraying with Paris green when the worms are very young will destroy them. London purple is also used with success. When they are discovered in large numbers the limbs containing the worms should be cut off and carried out of the orchard and burned.

The caterpillars will first eat all the leaves within the web, then those nearest by, often defoliating the entire tree. The worm is noticeably set with tufts of bristle-like projections.

This insect is sometimes confused with the tent caterpillar which appears in the spring and builds its web in the forks of the limbs.



Plum trees at ten years should produce one bushel.

Cherry trees at eight years should produce one bushel.

Pear trees at twelve years should produce three bushels.

Apple trees at fifteen years should produce three bushels.

Ringling or girdling the vine may sometimes be used to advantage.

Promptly gather up and burn all brush and rubbish in the orchard.

Don't permit the strawberries to go into winter quarters filled with weeds or grass.

An orchard will live longer, bear better and be more profitable by being well cultivated and enriched.

Straw is recommended by almost every farm publication as a winter covering for strawberry plants.

It is said that cherries cannot be grown profitably at any great distance from large bodies of water.

The city dealer profits by the lameness of the grower, by grading and repacking his badly assorted fruit.

When spraying do not work with bare hands. They'll be sore if you do. Put on a pair of rubber gloves.

Very few pears are at their best if allowed to ripen on the tree. A good rule is to pick when the seeds have turned brown.

## DAIRY



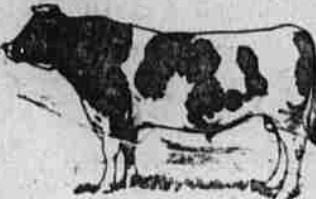
## VALUE OF A PURE-BRED SIRE

Pedigree Bulls Get Calves Far Superior in Dairy Quality to Those of Local Animals.

(By W. R. GILBERT.)

Although the general run of dairy cows are of no definite breeding, they are not necessarily the worse for that. Good dairy quality is a natural characteristic which is hereditary to an eminent degree. A long line of ancestors of dairy character on both sides of the family tree is quite sufficient to insure good dairy quality of the offspring.

Dairy character has been developed by careful selection. It is not a quality originally inherent in any one



Champion Holstein.

breed, although some breeds prove themselves more amenable to the influence of selection than others.

Dairy farmers are fully alive to the importance of heredity in this respect, and although they favor cattle of certain breeds, they fight shy of cattle of those breeds from pedigree herds. This is because they have found that pedigree bulls in many instances get calves far superior in dairy quality to the calves of locally-bred bulls.

The influence of an unsuitable bull is very far-reaching, for his hollers do not show of what they are capable until three years after his introduction.

During these three years, that bull, if he is a wrong one, will have been destroying the dairy character that probably took many years to establish.

The reason why pedigree bulls in the past have failed as popular sires in the dairy herds is to be attributed to a great extent to the cattle-shows. Breeders of bulls for sale, naturally look to the show yards for publicity and success to bring their cattle under the notice of the buyers.

Bulls of dairy strains at one year old, the usual age for exhibiting, do not fill the eye with the same effect as the beef type, so they do not appear in the prize list and are branded as inferior accordingly.

## CATCH FOR ANY SMALL DOOR

Device Shown in the Illustration Will Be Found of Much Convenience on Farm.

An easily made and very effective catch to hold any small door, as in a washstand, sideboard, etc., is shown in the sketch. It is simply a small



Catch for a Small Door.

screw eye and an upholstering staple attached, as shown at A. The manner in which they hold the door, says Popular Mechanics, is shown at B.

## GOOD PLACE FOR SEPARATOR

Room With Cement Floor and Plastered Walls in Some Part of Barn Is Convenient.

Just where to place a cream separator for convenient use is sometimes a question. Convenience requires that the place be in or near the barn, though it is sometimes placed in the kitchen or some portion of the home building.

A room with cement floor and plastered walls can be constructed in some part of the barn where it will be convenient and more sanitary than if placed in the kitchen or in any open portion of the barn where it is likely to be affected by dust and odors. This room should have a water system and proper drainage, so that it may be kept clean and swept all the time.

The work necessary in preparing this room is not expensive, nor does it require expert help, but such a room in some locality is absolutely necessary for the production of clean milk products and in lessening the work of the dairy. Care in handling the milk and plenty of hot water in cleaning the vessels will remove very many of the criticisms that are made against the farm dairyman.

## Poor Combinations.

A good cow in the hands of a poor dairyman is a poorer proposition than a poor cow in the hands of a good dairyman. Both are very poor combinations and a good dairyman will not keep a poor cow more than one season.

## NAPHTHALENE IN ROAD TARS

Systematic Investigation of Effects of Various Constituents Upon Its Adaptability is Important.

As a large part of the road work in this country seems destined to be effected by the use of tars in road treatment and construction, a systematic investigation of the effects of various constituents upon the adaptability of tars as road binders is of great importance.

Hence, the recent circular issued by the United States department of agriculture on "The Effect of Naphthalene upon the Consistency of Refined Tars" (Office of public roads, circular No. 96) is a valuable contribution to good roads literature. While definite conclusions are not announced, the results strongly indicate four determinate facts:

(1) That the fluxing value of naphthalene for tar pitches is somewhat greater, although quite similar, to the heavier naphthalene-free tar distillates, until the mixture becomes saturated with naphthalene.

(2) That for the harder tar pitches the addition of very small percentages of naphthalene will produce a marked increase in fluidity of the resulting product.

(3) That for the softer pitches the addition of naphthalene in small quantities causes less increase in fluidity than for the harder pitches.

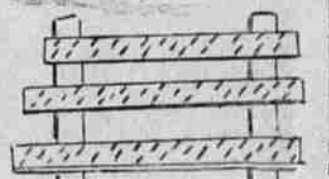
(4) That where naphthalene is added beyond the point of saturation a rapid decrease in the fluidity of tars at temperatures below the melting point of naphthalene is observed, but at temperatures above its melting point the fluidity continues to increase.

Further, evidences point to the fact that, within a reasonable degree of accuracy, it should be possible to forecast, by use of the data given in the pamphlet, what consistency to expect from the addition of a given percentage of naphthalene to a tar pitch or refined tar of known consistency, irrespective of the free carbon content of the tar.

## CHEAP RACK FOR SEED CORN

Frame May Be Constructed Out of Common Fence Boards With Nails Driven Through on Slant.

Construct a frame from fence boards. This may be of any length or height, and several medium-sized ones are better than one large frame.



Cheap Seed-Corn Rack.

Drive nails through the boards each way on an upward slant. On these nails stick the butts of the corn. Each ear stands out by itself, where it can dry perfectly. By numbering each ear on the board, track of it can be kept when testing for germination. Keep in a cool place and to insure protection from mice swing it up by wires.

## Storing Pumpkins in the Field.

You needn't expect to reap much profit from storing your pumpkins and cattle on pumpkins for a few days during the harvest season, then cutting off their supply of this valuable feed for another whole year. Store your pumpkins in the field. Pile the pumpkins in a row, as high and as wide as you wish, cover with hay and set up fodder on each side to a thickness of three or four feet. This not only affords ample protection from the cold, but also enables you to form a most profitable balanced ration by adding "the fruit of the vine" as you feed out the corn and fodder.



A remarkable thing about alfalfa is its perennial youth.

Telephonic communication with the market is a great advantage.

The successful garden is started in the fall, although not a seed may be planted.

Thoroughly air dried seed corn will stand almost any temperature, no matter how low.

Clean up the yard and farmstead generally. Plan to set out a few more ornamentals next spring.

Those farmers who have roots to feed their stock this winter (whether they have a silo or not) are lucky.

Askes are best applied in the spring, separately or in connection with phosphate fertilizers as a top-dressing.

The value of corn ensilage is beginning to be better understood in the eastern states than it was formerly.

Cranberries were not injured so much this year by early frosts as they were during the past two years.

Did the carrots, beets, etc., and store them for winter use. Medium sized tender roots are best for winter use.

Tobacco dust worked into the surface of the soil just before setting the lettuce will help to keep the aphids away.

Alfalfa can be grown on stiff lands with great success, but is not a success on sandy soils unless the land is limed and inoculated.

## INVITATION to FARMERS

to call here for their Spring supplies

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Plows, Harrows, Mattacks, Hoes, Barbed Wire, Staples, Nails, Roofing, and all kinds of farming utensils and supplies.

## Hardware and Cutlery

There is no article in the hardware line that we do not carry. This includes tools of all kinds - mechanics and farmers.

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Batteries for telephones and gas engines. Fresh stock.

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The famous Birdsell Wagons kept in stock at all times. They are guaranteed and give satisfaction right along. Prices moderate.

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Incorporated.

MAIN STREET.

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## In Memory of Little Billie.

Death has again come into our midst and claimed for its own the form of Little Billie Gussler. Little Billie was the son of John S. Gussler, but spent the higher portion of his short life here with his grandparents, Will and Julian Gussler. The subject of this sketch was born 24th day of March, 1911, fell asleep on the morning of the 23 of June 1912, being one year three months and five days old. Little Billie was afflicted with that dreaded disease tuberculosis which it is supposed that he inherited from his mother who preceded him a little over a year ago.

Billie was a very bright little child, during his afflictions he enjoyed singing very much and would smile when any one would sing for him. He had been very restless the night before his death but when the hour came for him to quit suffering he passed away peacefully with a smile upon his face and went to dwell with mother and his Heavenly Father where suffering will be no more. It is hard for us to give up those jewels which we prize so highly, but the God that gave him has taken away. Then let us say in all things "Thy will be done." May his few days stay here be the instrument of bringing father and grandfather closer to Christ, who has said in his blessed word "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." Funeral preached in the M. E. Church South at the home of Little Billie, the scribe helping to conduct the services. The body was then conveyed to the Adams burying ground and after the many "borrowing" friends that were standing around had taken the last look at the corpse it was lowered into the grave there to remain until the general resurrection morn when the dead in Christ shall arise.

Billie's gone, oh how we miss him, gone and never can return, but we by living a Christ-like life can meet him where no parting ever shall come.

E. F. McCLAIN.

In these days of high cost of living, a medicine that gets a man up out of bed and able to work in a few days is a valuable and welcome remedy. John Heath, Michigan Bar, Cal., had kidney and bladder trouble, was confined to his bed, unable to turn without help. "I commenced using Foley Kidney Pills and can truly say I was relieved at once." His example is worth following. For sale by All dealers.

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